

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LIMA

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PE, KN

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
BETWEEN PERU AND NORTH KOREA

REFS:A)LIMA 7346 B) STATE 189676

1. AS EMBASSY AWARE, ROKG AND NORTH KOREA HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN EXTENSIVE GLOBAL DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES WITH WHICH EACH ENJOYS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. NORTH KOREA HAS ENCOUNTERED CONSIDERABLY MORE SUCCESS IN ITS EFFORTS THAN HAS ROKG AND REPORTED INTENTION OF GOP TO RECOGNIZE NORTH IS CONSISTENT WITH THIS TREND.

2. WHILE GOP SHOULD ALREADY BE AWARE US POSITION ON RECOGNITION AND MAY WELL MAKE DECISION IRREGARDLESS OF OUR OPINION, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PRESENT OUR VIEWS AGAIN. ACCORDINGLY, REQUEST EMBASSY DISCUSS IMPENDING RECOGNITION OF NORTH KOREA WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY DRAWING ON FOLLOWING POINTS.

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3. USG UNDERSTANDS DESIRE OF MANY COUNTRIES TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA UNDER PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY. MOREOVER WE RECOGNIZE THAT IN LONG RUN IT WILL BE BENEFICIAL TO BRING NORTH KOREA OUT OF PRESENT ISOLATION AND INTO MORE

REASONABLE ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, INCLUDING FULL MEMBERSHIP IN UNGA ALONG WITH ROK AS ROK HAS PROPOSED (BUT NORTH OPPOSES). HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT EVEN-HANDED TREATMENT OF TWO KOREAN PARTIES BY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS ESSENTIAL TO CREATE CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO STABILITY OF KOREAN PENINSULA AND RESOLUTION OF KOREAN ISSUES BY KOREANS. ROKG HAS RECOGNIZED THIS NECESSITY AND PRESIDENT PARK IN JUNE 1973 PUBLICLY EXPRESSED INTENTION TO DEAL WITH ALL COUNTRIES ON BASIS OF EQUALITY AND RECIPROCITY. THIS REPRESENTS SIGNIFICANT DEPARTURE FROM PAST ROK PRACTICE OF INSISTING ON CLAIM OF SOLE LEGITIMACY AND REJECTION OF RELATIONS WITH COUNTRIES WHICH RECOGNIZE THE NORTH. IN CONTRAST, HOWEVER, NORTH KOREA HAS ACTIVELY SOUGHT TO RESTRICT ACTION BY HER FRIENDS AND ALLIES TOWARD DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH THE ROK, AS RESULT OF WHICH MOVEMENT IN PAST YEAR HAS BEEN TOWARD RECOGNITION OF NORTH WITH NO CORRESPONDING RECIPROCITY BY ALLIES OF NK. ALTHOUGH APPROACHES BY FRIENDS OF ROKG HAVE BEEN MADE TO BLOC COUNTRIES, NONE HAS YET AGREED TO RECOGNIZE THE SOUTH. ACCORDINGLY GOP COULD MAKE MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO CONCEPT OF EQUAL TREATMENT BY INFORMING NORTH KOREA THAT PERU WOULD BE PREPARED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH NORTH ONLY AS PART OF PARALLEL MOVE BY FRIENDS OF NORTH TOWARD ROK. TIME HAS COME FOR NORTH TO ALLOW HER FRIENDS TO MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION. IF FINAL DECISION TO RECOGNIZE NORTH HAS BEEN TAKEN, WE HOPE PERU WILL DELAY ANNOUNCEMENT AND MOVE SLOWLY IN ACCREDITING AMBASSADORS OR ALLOWING NK EMBASSY TO BE ESTABLISHED.

4. YOU MAY ALSO WISH TO REFER TO REF B FOR DETAILS OF RECENT COSTA RICAN ACTION TO REQUEST VISITING DPRK DELEGATION TO LEAVE SAN JOSE. KISSINGER

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